

**Department of Public Works and Transportation**  
***DIVISION OF SOLID WASTE SERVICES***



*Transfer Station in Derwood, MD*

***MONTHLY REPORT***  
***FEBRUARY 2000***



*Printed on Recycled and Recyclable Paper*

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## **OVERVIEW**

### **Tonnage at a Glance**

The following table shows key material flows during the current month, during the fiscal years to date (FY Total), and during the current calendar month in the two prior fiscal years. (County fiscal year 2000 began July 1, 1999.)

<b>FACILITY</b>	<b>Feb FY 00</b>	<b>FY 00 Total</b>	<b>Feb FY 99</b>	<b>Feb FY 98</b>
Materials Recycling Facility <sup>(1)</sup>	5,724 Tons	40,032 Tons	4,170 Tons	4,456 Tons
Brunswick Landfill Facility	8,361 Tons	89,160 Tons	11,727 Tons	10, 171 Tons
American Ash Recycling <sup>(2)</sup>	2,974 Tons	23,805 Tons	N/A	N/A
Resource Recovery Facility <sup>(3)</sup>	36,486 Tons	323,852 Tons	38,785 Tons	31,752 Tons
Yard Trim Compost Facility <sup>(4)</sup>	0 Tons	40,957 Tons	6,140 Tons	856 Tons

<sup>(1)</sup>For FY00, MRF tons reported are outgoing. For previous years, incoming was reported.

<sup>(2)</sup>Tons shipped out to ash recycling facility during the indicated period. All tons so shipped are recycled.

<sup>(3)</sup>RRF tonnage refers to tons burned (processed). Waste shipped from the Transfer Station but not burned is in the pit and is not included in the tonnage presented here. For FY00, these tonnages are preliminary, with adjustments made in the December and June monthly reports.

<sup>(4)</sup>Corrections: November FY00 was 15,005 tons; and December FY00 was 13,171 tons.

**Revenue Analysis and Systems Evaluation** – Continued work with OMB and Finance on revisions to FY01 through FY06 rate and fiscal health models in connection with the FY01 budget. Entered all data from hauler report forms into an access database. Entered July and August (pre-Paradygm) Transfer Station data in order to have complete FY00 database in Access. Selected

haulers to be audited. (Plan to audit over 90% of the tons reported during March and April.) Received tonnage reports for all facilities and continued to apply internal controls on tonnage reporting which is going more smoothly. Continued to coordinate in house effort to gather recycling data from self-haulers and processors. Prepared January system benefit charge revenue review. Variable rate study: did additional statistical review on pilot data, developed multi-variate regression on file contract data to examine non-residential and multi-family private hauler costs, continued drafting report sections.

## **CITIZEN COMMITTEES**

**Facilities Implementation Group (FIG)** – The FIG meeting was held on February 15, 2000. A facilitator, Mr. Katz, was brought in to discuss Rules of Order with the group. They drafted a letter to the County Executive on issues such as alternates, attendance and requested that MNCPPC and DEP be made permanent non-voting members of the group. They voted to schedule a meeting with Mr. Duncan in April. The next meeting is scheduled for April 18, 2000.

**SCA Activities** – In accordance with Section 8B of the Agreement of Settlement and Compromise, the County will meet with Sugarloaf Citizens Association (SCA) to discuss the compost facility and other related matters. The meeting is scheduled for March 16, 2000, at 20900 Martinsburg Road in Dickerson. This meeting will be the first of the two meetings required by the Agreement. The second meeting will be scheduled in September 2000.

**Solid Waste Advisory Committee** – SWAC met Saturday, February 19 at the MRF. The committee was briefed on major improvements and modifications at the Transfer Station facility. The meeting was adjourned early to allow time for a tour of the facility. The County Executive received 17 applications from individuals interested in serving on SWAC. A nominating subcommittee was formed, and interviews will be conducted in March.

## **COLLECTIONS**

**Refuse** - Refuse collections were back to normal in February with no further disruptions caused by the weather.

**Recycling** - There were no additions to the mixed paper program this month. The next area of expansion will be 16,645 homes in Area 7, the general area of Montgomery Village, on March 27, 2000. For those areas of the County still without curbside mixed paper recycling, weekend drop-offs were established. This month, 42,600 lbs. of material was captured at the drop-offs.

**Contractor Performance** – There were only 4 complaints not resolved by the contractors. The County corrected all 4 of these issues. The number of complaints received in February totaled 301. This represents a 1.63% reduction from February last year, which had a total of 306 complaints.

**Enforcement Actions** – Four (4) tickets were issued in the amount of \$2,500 for violations of County solid waste laws. A commercial driver was caught driving on a suspended CDL license. The police were contacted and they issued \$520 in fines and 12 points.

**Customer Service** – There were 7,577 incoming calls with 410 follow-up calls as a quality control check, handled by the Customer Service Staff. In addition, 1,843 bins were delivered.

**Volunteer Activities** - Master Recycler/Composter program volunteers contributed 262 hours of service and reached approximately 3,152 residents. The volunteers handled 963 calls to the recycling hotline with an additional 570 calls coming into the answering machine. Of the 963 calls received, 540, or 56.1%, were about residential issues. The Volunteer activities included weekend mixed paper drop-offs at Potomac, Poolesville, Silver Spring, Damascus and Bethesda.

## **WASTE MINIMIZATION**

**Drop-off Programs** – An Invitation For Bids (IFB) for textile recycling is on the street and is due in early March. A pallet survey was mailed to pallet recycling vendors to obtain information to be used in developing a potential IFB.

**Department of Environmental Protection's Home Composting and Source Reduction Activities** – Assisted DSWS in reviewing bids and selecting contractor for Yard Trim Composting and Grasscycling Survey. Drafted question for survey to be conducted March/April 2000.

Developed contract and established schedule for advertising program in the Gazette Newspapers throughout 2000 including ads addressing composting, grasscycling, compost bin sales, special events, and Internet-available information.

Conducted a worm composting workshop for K-12 teachers through UMBC. Worked with Maryland Department of Education specialists on the possibility of including worm composting as part of future training for teachers specializing in Early Childhood Development education.

Developed and registered a new domain for environmental education: askDEP.com. The new domain will allow residents to hear or see advertisements and public service announcements regarding a host of issues (including grasscycling, mulching, waste reduction, hazardous material recycling, and composting) and easily remember the website to turn to for more information and help. As lawn care season approaches, a series of ads will be developed asking questions such as: “When should I fertilize my lawn? How tall should I cut my grass? When should I mulch trees and shrubs?” The answer to all of those questions will be at “askDEP.com.” A logo for the site is also being used:



## **HAZARDOUS WASTE PROGRAMS**

**Household Hazardous Waste Collection** – Seventeen (17) citizens who could not attend the next scheduled event came to the Transfer Station to drop off household hazardous waste. The HHW schedule for March through June is being printed.

**Small Quantity Generator (Ecowise) Program** – One Ecowise event was held in February. Five companies attended.

## **AIR PERMITS AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS**

**Resource Recovery Facility** – In February, the Continuous Emissions Monitoring System (CEM) indicated that units 1 and 2 have been operating continuously and unit 3 was offline until February 19. The loads on the units were increased or decreased depending on the waste received at the RRF for processing. On February 19, at about 8 PM, unit 3 was brought online to handle increased waste in the pit. All three units operated continuously until February 25. Unit 2 was brought offline on February 25 at approximately 11 AM, and units 1 and 3 continued to operate at loads varying from 85% to 100%. On February 29, units 1 and 3 were brought offline for scheduled maintenance. There were no equipment malfunctions in February that affected unit operations or stack emissions.

CD-ROMs were updated to include CEM data up to January 31, 2000. Ten copies of CDs were generated and distributed to staff and citizen committees, including SWAC and FIG.

As of February 29, the RRF has not received the Title V operation permit from MDE. Ogden staff is currently in the process of contacting MDE to request renewal of the current operation permit, which expires on October 31, 2000.

**Oaks Landfill Energy Recovery Facility: Leachate Evaporation Technology**

– On February 21, the contractor completed refurbishing the ground flare with new insulation and brick to withstand the high temperatures and moisture, and allowed 24 hours for drying. On February 22, the ground flare was fired with landfill gas and was allowed to operate on gas only for approximately 12 hours. On February 23, at 9:45 AM, leachate was pumped in to the system. Since then, the facility has been operating continuously and is using approximately 1,800 cubic foot of landfill gas to evaporate nine gallons of leachate per minute. The average methane concentration remains at 50% with oxygen levels of less than one percent. Stack tests for the evaporator are scheduled for the first week of March.

**Yard Trim Composting Facility: Consent Agreement** - In February, the Consent Agreement was signed by the County's Assistant Administrative Officer and by Maryland Environmental Service (MES). Currently, the document is with the Maryland Department of Environment (MDE) for final signatures. On February 18, the first wet sampling event was conducted for the winter season under the One-year Evaluation Program required by the Consent Agreement. Following the wet sampling event, the five-day dry sampling event was conducted from February 19 through 23. The sampling program will continue through the end of May 2000. ENSR is expected to complete the project report by August, and DSWS plans to meet with MDE in September to discuss the results of the program and future course of action.

**Contractual Work** - ENSR submitted the draft report on the RRF Non-Air Media Ambient Sampling Program for distribution to SWAC and FIG. ENSR continues work on RRF Ambient Air Sampling Report, Cumulative Impact Study and Epidemiological Study. The following draft reports were available for distribution to the Facilities Implementation Group (FIG) in February:

1. Quarterly Reports on the "Consent Agreement One-year Evaluation Program" conducted at the Montgomery County Yard Trim Composting Facility (YTCF).
2. Updated Dispersion and Deposition Modeling Analysis for the RRF.
3. Review of RRF Non-air media sampling results and ENSR's recommendations.

## **RECYCLING**

**Public Outreach** – The Division continues to get response as a result of the comprehensive outreach campaign on recycling, which includes radio spots, TV spots, transit ads and print ads. Review is underway for two additional print executions. The number of presentations staff is providing to community associations and groups on curbside recycling and the mixed paper recycling program is rising. A number of community events are already planned around April 22, Earth Day.

The SORRT awareness campaign continues. Response has been strong. Calls regarding business recycling and the SORRT Program have increased since the campaign began. The campaign includes a 30-second TV advertisement, two 60-second radio spots, transit advertisements and print advertisements.

A partnership between the Division and the MCPS Department of Facilities Management has been formed to improve the MCPS recycling program and recycling rate throughout the County's public schools.

The new web site address for the County's recycling program is [www.MCRecycles.org](http://www.MCRecycles.org). Other related web site addresses for specific County recycling programs are: [www.SORRT.org](http://www.SORRT.org) and [www.TRRAC.org](http://www.TRRAC.org).

**Commercial Recycling and Waste Reduction** – The Program Specialists for the SORRT (Smart Organizations Reduce and Recycle Tons) program increased on-site consultations to all businesses and schools (private and public). A plan was established to assist MCPS in its efforts to re-start its recycling program. Staff organized cluster meetings for all the schools. Each cluster's high school was selected as the location for the meeting. At these meetings we offered consultations and provided literature, posters, stickers, and addressed any questions or concerns of individual schools. We plan to conduct follow-up visits at all of the schools to formally evaluate their progress. Evaluation reports are also being used for the business sector. Staff will continue work with the MCPS System to rejuvenate its recycling program.

**Multi-Family Recycling** – A campaign to increase awareness of the T.R.R.A.C. (Think Reduce and Recycle at Apartments and Condominiums) Program is under development. Program offerings will be expanded to include a newsletter, seminars, and an awards program. The Division continues to conduct a bin effectiveness study. On-site evaluations of recycling programs continue.

**Mixed Paper Recycling** – A refrigerator magnet has been designed and will be produced shortly. These magnets will be mailed out to those households that already have mixed paper collection. Then they will be mailed in batches to the



remaining single-family households, as they receive mixed paper recycling collection. Vinyl stickers for blue bins have also been designed and will be produced. They are designed as postcards, and again will be distributed in a way similar to the magnet. Other outreach materials in support of the mixed paper recycling program are under development. A draft of outreach materials explaining mixed paper recycling in Spanish is under development.

## **FACILITY ACTIVITIES**

**Yard Trim Compost Facility** – Phase I of the pilot for tubgrinding of screening rejects has been completed. All 3,160 cubic yards (cy) of material was processed. A market has been located for all the processed material. A Phase 2 agreement is being drafted to allow the grinding of the 1999 batch containing storm debris. There is currently 7,662 cy of 1999 material on site.

Bagging of Leafgro continues, weather permitting, at the Transfer Station. In February, 18,000 bags were produced. A bagging line is being installed at Dickerson to start a pilot operation in March.

In February, no material was received for processing and 3,738 cubic yards of Leafgro were sold from Dickerson.

**Resource Recovery Facility** – Operations for the month generally consisted of two boilers operating at 100% capacity. Unit 3 was offline until the 19<sup>th</sup> when it was brought on line to perform the maximum electrical generation testing required for PEPCO. The Facility passed the test with net generation of more than 52 MW. After a few days of three-unit operations to reduce the refuse pit volume, unit 2 was removed from service on February 25. There were 36,486 tons of waste processed at the Facility.

On February 29 units 1 and 3 and the turbine generator were removed from service to prepare for a total plant outage and deaerator inspection.

The Facility sold 20,899 MWH during the month, for approximately \$600,000 in revenues. During the plant outage, the Facility bought 35.7 MWH for in-house power.

CSX rail service continues to be inconsistent and unacceptable on some days. CSX management has responded to the Authority's letters and discussions are continuing.

No yard material was shipped by the rail system this month.

Approximately 2,974 tons of ash was shipped to the American Ash Recycling, Inc. facility in York, PA for recycling.

There were no reportable air or water quality excursions during the month. Ogden's regional environmental engineer was on site several days during the month. The following reports were submitted in the month:

- Hazardous Materials Use permit renewal to MDE and DFRS
- Calendar 1999 annual tonnage report to MDE
- Quarterly Drinking Waste monitoring to MDE
- January 2000 water supply report to MDE
- Final ash characterization report to NEA and DSWS
- Air emissions data CD-ROMs were updated

Ogden's environmental engineer attended the pollution prevention program meeting held by the County for all of its contractors at the RRF and Transfer Station.

On February 24, Ogden's plant engineer met with DSWS and DEP staff to inspect the stormwater retention pond and discharge structure, and to discuss new procedures for the County's inspection and regulation activities.

Ten tours were given to more than 125 people, including three Poolesville Elementary second grade classes, a group from the County's Volunteers, Julius West Middle School, Montgomery County home schools, and visitors from Finland, U.S. General Services Agency, a local industry and a family.

**Materials Recovery Facility** – Approximately 2,444 tons of old newspaper, 1,574 tons of commingled material and 1,705 tons of mixed paper were shipped out after processing.

The 30% design of the west wing expansion was reviewed by County staff. Comments will be reviewed with the design consultant in early March.

The bid request for improvements to the pre-sort system was issued.

Construction work on the main tipping floor associated with the mixed paper program continued. Both push walls have been poured.

**Oaks Landfill** - The contractor for the Phase II closure construction, Barbella Environmental Technology, Inc., took advantage of the mild weather in February and resumed placing geocomposite material and vegetative support soil layer. Barbella is approximately 85% complete with the construction work (about 7 acres remain to be capped of the 65 acres on the eastern side of the landfill).

Cherry Hill Construction, the contractor for the Phase I closure construction (about 68 acres on the western side of the landfill) is shut down for winter. Cherry Hill is approximately 40% complete with the construction work. Work is scheduled to recommence in early March.

DSWS received a proposal from SCS Field Services for installing two additional extraction wells to achieve further reductions in methane migration on the northern side of the landfill. DSWS is reviewing the proposal as well as recent data to determine whether the proposed two additional wells will adequately address the gas migration problem. All information and field data is being shared with DEP.

**Transfer Station** - Ogden Martin shipped via rail 36,630 tons of processible waste from the Transfer Station to the Resource Recovery Facility, 214 fewer tons than shipped in February 1999.

Litter was collected by MES along Shady Grove Road from Route 355 to the intersection with Muncaster Mill Road.

The County and Ogden resolved most outstanding issues with the contractor for the Nonprocessable Waste facility concerning electrical problems and completion of the roof and siding.

Atlantic Builders Group, Inc. began preparing construction submittals under a contract to implement additional master plan improvements at the Transfer Station.

**Site 2 Property Management** – DFS is following maintenance schedules for the properties. Winterizing the Chiswell farmhouse is continuing. The Division will now develop the renovation plan because DFS has not been able to complete it.

### **Out-of-County Haul**

**Brunswick County, Virginia** – Approximately 6,086 tons of ash residue and 2,275 tons of nonprocessable waste were transported to the County's dedicated disposal cell at the Brunswick Waste Management Facility, Inc. Landfill in Brunswick County, Virginia. There were 534 tons of dirt, rock and wood recycled at Clean Rock in Hagerstown, MD.

**York, Pennsylvania** – There were 2,974 tons of ash residue (back hauled by rail from the RRF) shipped from the Transfer Station to American Ash Recycling in York, PA to be recycled into aggregate.

**Linden Farm Renovations** – The project is substantially complete but some items remain to be completed. Remaining construction activities being managed by DFS are in progress.

Phase I of the plantings to screen the Compost Facility from the Linden Farm is complete. The County and Sugarloaf are working with a landscape design firm to complete design of Phase II this fall.

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

### **Important Telephone Numbers**

General information on solid waste- 240/777-6400

Customer Service- 240/777-6410

Recycling Hotline- 301/590-0046 (Hours of operation: Mon. - Fri., 1:00 - 4:00 PM)

Transfer Station- 301/840-2370

Materials Recovery Facility- 301/417-1447- Maryland Environmental Service

Resource Recovery Facility- 301/349-5685 County Office  
301/916-3031 Ogden Martin Systems of Montgomery

Yard Trim Compost Facility- 301/428-8185

Internet for DSWS- [www.dpwt.com](http://www.dpwt.com), then click on Solid Waste Services

Note: All comments, questions, and suggestions on the contents of this report should be addressed to:

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## SOLID WASTE FACTS IN A NUTSHELL

<b>TOPIC OR FACILITY</b>	
Current Recycling Rate in Montgomery County	36%
Recycling Goal by 2000	50%
New Recycling Programs Scheduled for FY 00	Implementation of Residential Mixed Paper Collection March 1999- Textile Recycling Pilot began
Resource Recovery Facility (RRF)	Guaranteed Capacity = 85% of 1800 tpd on an annual basis (558,450 tons/yr).
Yard Trim Composting Facility (DCF)	Operations Limited to Receipt of 77,000 tons/year under Sugarloaf Settlement Agreement. FY 99 tons received- 59,800
# Residences receiving trash collection by County contractors	82,599
# Residences receiving collection of recyclables in blue bins and yard waste collection	195,405
Term of out-of-county waste transportation and disposal contract with Brunswick Waste Management Facility, Inc.	June 19, 1997 through June 30, 2012 with an option for a five-year renewal. (Service started on October 20, 1997.)

## **GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS**

AAR	American Ash Recycling
APC	Air Pollution Control
ASME	American Society of Mechanical Engineers
BFI	Browning Ferris Industries
CEM	Continuous Emissions Monitoring
CIP	Capital Improvements Program
COG	Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
CSX	Chesapeake Systems
DEP	Department of Environmental Protection
DFS	Division of Facilities and Services
DSWS	Division of Solid Waste Services
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
FIG	Facilities Implementation Group
HCFA	Health Care Financing Administration
HHW	Household Hazardous Waste
IFB	Invitation For Bid
IRS	Internal Revenue Service
LTTS	Leachate Thermal Treatment System
MCPS	Montgomery County Public Schools
MDE	Maryland Department of Environment
MES	Maryland Environmental Service
MRF	Materials Resource Facility
MWH	Mega Watt Hours
NPDES	National Pollution Discharge Elimination System
OMB	Office of Management and Budget
PEPCO	Potomac Electric Power Company
"Red Wiggler"	Handicap Adult Development Group
ROL	Reduced Operating Level
RRF	Resource Recovery Facility
SCA	Sugarloaf Citizens Association
SORRT	Smart Organizations Reduce and Recycle Tons
SWAC	Solid Waste Advisory Committee
TCLP	Toxic Characteristic Leaching Procedure
TPD	Tons Per Day
WM	Waste Management
YTCF	Yard Trim Composting Facility